

THE HICKMAN COURIER.

HICKMAN, KY.,
FRIDAY, MAY 27, 1898.

LATEST WAR NEWS.

Nothing Reliable—No Battles—All Expectancy—Peace Hints.

There is absolutely nothing reliable in the war news, from the fact that the government allows nothing officially to be given out. All the reports of battles this week proved to be fakes.

The newspapers have no positive information as to the whereabouts of the Spanish fleet, but it is reasonably certain that they are in Santiago de Cuba harbor, and that the American fleet has them hemmed in so they must sooner or later fight or surrender.

Dewey is all right at Manila. Troops and supplies are on the way to him, and more to follow. The Spanish fleet is estimated at 75,000 men volunteers, 112,000 of the first called have been mustered in. Every preparation is going on for the invasion of Cuba, Porto Rico, and the Philippines.

A great battle is liable to occur any hour, but the people should not credit any report except of officially authorized from Washington.

From London comes the news of Spain's interceding through the Powers for peace.

A Long War.

Many knowings are beginning to predict a long war, lasting from one to several years, and they give many reasons to support this prediction.

Let them think it the manifest policy of Spain to wage an evasive war, that is to avoid any general engagements by land or sea, but for the reason that she is not able to fight the United States in any decisive battles, and for the further reason that if she can protract the war for one year, or two years, the great powers will tire of the interruption of general commerce, and take steps to bring about peace.

And then on the American side the approach of the yellow fever season in Cuba, the danger from this cause of landing great bodies of soldiers there, and the almost certainty of passing transports and soldiers back and forth to all our Southern towns and cities, would be very much in favor of not crossing over our soldiers to occupy Cuba until late this fall. To be sure, if Sampson and Schley shall meet and destroy the Spanish fleet as Dewey did at Manila, then the war would end quickly, but otherwise it promises to be protracted for one year anyhow.

SNAKES in the Philippines grow as big as telegraph poles. Ugh!

If any Kentucky editor has joined the army he is drilling under an alias.

THE prison commission case will be argued before the court of appeals June 1st.

THE Republicans of Tennessee will nominate a State ticket at Nashville, August 17th.

THE heavy expenditures for war material, putting millions in circulation, will introduce an era of prosperity.

We don't want Cuba, nor Porto Rico, nor the Philippines, nor have we any use for Hawaii, only as war necessities.

THEY take a cheerful view in Madrid of the failure of Sampson to keep Cervera out of Cuba ports. A dispatch says, "It is no believed the Americans held in order to avoid a reverse."

GEN. LEE has carried out the sentimental idea of having Gen. Grant's grandson, Algernon Sartoris, on his staff. His own son, Fitzhugh Lee, Jr., will also be one of his staff officers.

THE State Baptist Association will hold its annual meeting in Hopkinsville on June 15 and continuing several days. The Baptist ministers will meet on June 16 and 17. Over 400 delegates will attend.

OUR Kentucky volunteers are kicking because they have nothing but cornbread and bacon to eat. Scientists say a charge will keep longer when fed with nuts than that kind of grub, and this diet was probably adopted so our boys can be shipped home after the battle is over.

THIS is from the Louisville Dispatch: "Boys, if you want to get into the army, or in other places where the services of men are needed, stop wasting your nerve force and vitality on the deadly cigarette. There will be need for men before the war is over, and you may brace up and get in yet."

Ben Keys Again.

The Populists, in Convention at Princeton, nominated Ben C. Keys for Congress in this District. The platform is strict Middle-of-the-Road. Keys has been the Populist nominee several times, and is a well informed man on the Populist issues and contentions.

Lord Woolsey's Hint.

Lord Woolsey, the commander in chief of the English army and navy, expresses his open sympathy for the United States in the war with Spain, and also that the American soldiers have no superiors in the world; but adds that the United States is lucky in not now being at war with a first class naval power. Public opinion in this country has realized the truth of this criticism, for it is evident that our small navy could not successfully meet the greater guns and ships of England, Germany or Russia. The realization of this fact is sure to lead to the United States building a navy equal to any power now existing.

Foreign Intervention.

The best evidence to the average citizen's mind that the European nations are not going to interfere actively on the side of Spain against the United States is the fact that the leading powers of Europe, England, Russia, Germany and France, are each seeking closer, friendly relations with the United States. There is little doubt but that the friendship of the people of Germany, France, Austria and Italy is on the side of Spain, and, perhaps, it is largely true in Russia, but the governments of all these countries are in the attitude of making friendly overtures to the United States. The facts appear to be that each and all of these countries have their own international difficulties, and they at least do not want to do anything to cause the United States to side with their enemy. And, besides, their trade, commerce and business is immense.

Miracles in War.

An over-anxious and impatient public are apt to expect something like miracles in war. The great victory of Dewey, without discrediting that great commander, was something like a miracle, that is, might not occur again in a war of years. But, it has led the United States to expect victories of the same kind and magnitude from Sampson and Schley. In fact, these impatient want a great battle every day, and no defeats on our side.

Our successes in war so far have been marvelous. We have achieved more than any nation similarly situated ever did in the same length of time before. Yet there is a general feeling of disappointment over the results. Why? Simply because we have been boasting too much, and have gotten our people into assuming that we could do things in a moment that cannot be accomplished in a month.

AN ENGLISH SPEAKING ALLIANCE. An American alliance favored by the London Chronicle. It says: These evidences of a solid and deserved success of the American arms do not alter, though they may reinforce our views as to the need of preparing the way for closer relations between the English and the American peoples. We see traces of a desire in high places at Washington to hold the Philippines in the far East. That policy would certainly evoke no jealousy in England. As we have said ourselves, the country does not covet the islands, and, indeed, her interests, as things are now shaping, lead her rather to the northward than to the southward of Hong Kong. For America's problem is not one of annexation but one of responsibility for ill-governed races, which have fallen away from their slovenly and also mercenary rulers. Meanwhile, we welcome the warm words in which Sir William Harcourt, at Cambridge, pledged the liberal party to "sympathy for the side that makes for freedom." He puts pitifully the reasons why we, all of us, are in heart with the American people in the struggle. Whatever the force of events may bring out of it, we understand and maintain that it was undertaken not for aggression nor for territorial aggrandizement, but in the same zeal for the emancipation of oppressed races which roused the best feeling of England over Bulgaria and over Armenia, and over Crete. Unhappily, in none of these cases could England put out her whole strength. But if we had been as free to do so as was America over this question of Cuba, we all know what would have happened.

THE revenue bill being discussed by Congress provides for issuing three per cent. bonds to the amount of \$100,000,000; an increase in the tax on beer of \$1 a barrel; an increase on manufactured tobacco to 12 cents a pound; an increase of \$1 per thousand in the tax on cigars. It provides for the placing of stamps on bank checks and patent medicines.

A WISE REGULATION.

It is rather hard upon the newspapers and the public, but the order of the Secretary of the Navy forbidding the giving out of any news from the Navy Department, except such as he shall authorize to be bulletined, is undoubtedly a wise one. There are some thoughtful persons who may say that the servants of the people should have no secrets from them, but there are times when secrecy on the part of public officials is absolutely necessary to the fulfillment of their purposes. Nothing could be more unwise than to put the plans for the prosecution of this war before the whole American people, for in such case they would immediately pass into the possession of the Spanish authorities, who would then know how to meet every movement made. And while there will be many bits of information, the giving out of which could do no harm, and in reading which the public would be very much interested, still the wisest discrimination would not always be exercised between what would prove harmful and what not, and thus the general embargo is judicious. The Navy Department promises to give out all information it has after facts are accomplished, and this ought to satisfy a reasonable public without the knowing in advance of the plans of the administration, or its speculations as to probable events. Happily, however, the Associated Press is not dependent upon the departments at Washington for its news of the war, it having its own vessels and correspondents in all waters where hostilities are likely. It has, indeed, these far-fetched the administration, furnished the administration with the first news it has had of nearly all the important events of the official reports. It will continue to give the people all the news there is, which is really all they need, and thus it will be found that the embargo at Washington is not so serious a matter as on its face it appears. It is, indeed, the closing, for good reasons, of but one of many channels of information.

THE WAR TAKEN.

The war tax strikes the retail druggist in a tender place. It provides for a tax of 1 cent on 25 bottles or packages of patent medicines, 2 cents on 50 cent bottles and 4 cents on \$1 bottles or packages, and the worst feature in the case is that he must buy the stamps and put them on every bottle as he sells it. After the law goes into effect the manufacturer will stamp them, but stock that has already been bought and paid for once, must now be paid for again, or at least the stamps must be paid for before he can sell the preparation, after the new law takes effect.

THE PARIS EXPOSITION.

We regret to see any opposition to a proper appropriation to defray the expenses of an American exhibit at the Paris Exposition, and that regret is increased because of the grounds upon which the opposition is based. We do not believe the French government has or will take any measure in hostility to us or to any act in violation of international law to our detriment. It is to our interest to strengthen our friendly ties with all nations.

A RACE PROBLEM.

If we annex Hawaii and the Philippines, which policy seems to be growing in popularity in this country since Dewey's victory at Manila, there would be a new race question to consider. The Boston Herald, speaking of the subject, says: "More than this, by the annexation of Hawaii we repudiate the principle that our people have held for the last four generations, a principle laid down in the Declaration of Independence, that all men were created free and equal, and in place of this substitute the doctrine that a certain specified section of mankind—that is, the white race, and possibly the Anglo-Saxon race alone—is capable of freedom, can lay down laws for the rest of mankind." While the rest of mankind is of a lower order, and must be treated on this basis, perhaps not enslaved, but none the less be made to understand that, as compared to the white inhabitants of the United States, they are not free and equal. This is the principle of government which of necessity we should have to adopt in the case of Hawaii, and which, if we are to be necessary in the case of the Philippine islands.

In Hawaii there would be about 5,000 or 6,000 people of whom political rights could be reasonably accorded. In the Philippine islands there would be 50,000 or 60,000 out of a population variously estimated from 7,500,000 to 15,000,000 who might be accorded limited political rights. Having cast aside our principles in the case of Hawaii, and having adopted the old and easy-grabbing theory, it would be an easy matter for us to give it extension in the manner just indicated.

The Cuban Rebels.

The insurgent forces in Cuba have evidently been over estimated in the matter of effectiveness and numbers. Investigation has shown that instead of an army of 30,000 or 40,000, the insurgents have only a few hundred men in the field, and most of these are poorly equipped and drilled.

AN INCOME TAX.

Whenever additional revenue is needed by the government the first thing to be taxed is whisky and the next is tobacco. It is argued that these are luxuries and, therefore, should bear the burden of taxation. It is further argued that since they are articles used by a large proportion of the people this tax is the most equitable. The income tax provision of the Wilson bill was declared unconstitutional because one judge saw light and changed his mind, but it is clear that, even with the questionable decision therein rendered, an income tax law could be framed that would stand the constitutional test.

If fairness is what Congress is looking for, let them put an income tax provision into the war revenue bill.

WAIT FOR THE FACTS.

The Associated Press finds it necessary to send out from Washington a fresh addition to the injunction to keep cool and wait. This telegram says that what officials of the navy department most fear is the effect that might be produced upon the people by greatly exaggerated and misleading reports from Spanish sources of some naval battle, in which the Spaniards will claim a decisive victory. It is realized that first news of an engagement in the neighborhood of Cuba or to the eastward may reach the United States through Spanish cables by the way of Madrid, and these are almost certain, no matter what the result may be, to make such a claim for victory for the Spanish as at the battle of Manila bay. Wait for our own official reports.

THE DURATION OF THE WAR.

One of the most pertinent questions growing out of the war between Spain and the United States is, What is to be the extent of its duration?

Flushed with excitement born of Admiral Dewey's brilliant exploit in Manila harbor, most of us are apt to conclude that two or three months will suffice to conclude hostilities, but such a conclusion does not seem to be the judgment of experienced fighters.

General Daniel E. Sickles, whose competency to judge of the duration of the war is based not only upon his gallant service in the Union army, but also upon his knowledge of the Spanish character, derived from his long official residence in Madrid, states that in his judgment not less than twelve months will be required to end the war finally. While perfectly aware of the destructiveness of modern guns, General Sickles believes this consideration will be in some measure neutralized by the dilatory tactics which Spain is more than likely to adopt.

But Rear Admiral Gherard, of the United States navy, is still more liberal in his allowance. He believes that three years at least will be required to settle the matter. Coming from one who is recognized as an authority on naval matters, this opinion cannot be regarded lightly.

So we must reconcile ourselves to what seems to be the duration of the war. If the war ends inside the next few months, so much the better, but if it does not, we must wait patiently for our delayed triumph.

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The United States and England are surely and swiftly drifting to an alliance. Now, what was at first but a suggestion, with scarcely a likelihood of ever taking a serious form, is being earnestly considered by the leading men of the two great countries, and more so by the English statesmen. England's most prominent public men and leading newspapers have thrown aside all reserve and openly urge and advocate the Alliance.

PROSPERITY OF THE FARMERS.

One has but to look about him to see the signs of prosperity that is everywhere becoming more noticeable among the farmers. They ought to be, and doubtless are, the happiest set of men in the country. The products of the soil are bringing fair prices, the coming wheat crop, which is immense, promises a good price, and while it is not likely to remain at its present status, it is pretty certain that the prevailing price at threshing time will be such as to make this year's crop profitable. That is the opinion of Joseph Leiter, and he is authority on all things pertaining to wheat, at present.

Small fruits and vegetables, in which our people are largely interested, are bringing fair prices, therefore, what doth hinder them from prospering?

A GREATER COURAGE.

"It sometimes requires more and better courage to stay at home than to go to war," says a man, if duty would permit him to—anteer, would be glad to go, but is compelled by the most solemn and binding of all human obligations to stay at home. It is not a man's duty to leave his wife, children, sisters or parents in want in order to go where he is not needed. So long as there is a surplus of men who want to enlist, and whose presence at home is not essential to the support of their families, no man whose presence is thus required has a moral right to enlist.

RAISING WAR REVENUE.

Nowhere, in no section, in no party, is there any opposition to furnishing the most ample means for the prosecution of the war to a prompt and successful issue. The only dispute is as to what funds are needed, and how they shall be provided. There is about \$200,000,000 of available surplus in the treasury of \$200,000,000, which had far better be put in circulation than be kept miserably hoarded in the public vaults, so there is no need of haste in the consideration of war revenue. There is about \$200,000,000 of available surplus in the Treasury. Why not utilize that by issuing certificates against it and

WHAT IS A LADY?

And What is a Gentleman?

"What is a lady?" "What is a gentleman?" Some one asked these questions of the New York World, and to a lady formed by that paper the definitions of the paper's readers were submitted. Prizes of \$25, \$12.50, \$7.50 and \$5 were awarded for answers to each question. The prize answers follow:

WHAT IS A "LADY"?

A lady is a woman of refinement, whether to the manner, born or acquired by culture. Her nobleness of character is apparent in any one, for she is unassuming, affable, obliging, sincere and sympathetic, and, as if in keeping with these essential qualities of an amiable disposition, she is a paragon of virtue, a model of propriety in dress, a patron of edifying pleasures, a dispenser of charity and a guardian angel at home.

SECOND PRIZE.

The following are my ideas of a lady's personal requisites: Strength, honor, wisdom, goodness and virtue. A woman strong and womanly in all her ways, possessing refined manners, tact, modesty, kindness of heart and a Christian spirit; always polite and considerate of the comforts and wishes of others, showing good nature to all, and retaining her good qualities during times of adversity.

THIRD PRIZE.

To form a lady, first take a large quantity of tact, then some more tact, and after that a great deal more tact. Add to this virtue, truth, thoughtfulness and unselfishness, a dash of kindheartedness, an under-current of benevolence and through all a refined gentleness. Over this lay the polish of cultivated womanhood, with a few old ancestors—the older the better, provided they are true blue-blooded with certain amount of gracious dignity, and you have the definition of something which is as undefinable as any of the other wonderful creations of nature.

FOURTH PRIZE.

Neither culture, position nor money can make a lady. She must be born with a noble, perhaps, but born—not made. All the relations of life must be sustained with affection, wisdom and tact. Often a lady must see and be kind, suffer and be silent. Her sympathies must be as broad as suffering, and her charity as deep as fallen humanity; her purity so manifest that even the semblance of vice will shrink abashed from her presence. She must be firm in character, true in word, gracious in action, tender in love and religious in soul.

WHAT IS A GENTLEMAN?

A gentleman—one who is gentle and refined in manner, courteous in deportment, magnanimous in disposition, genial in society, temperate in habit, neat in person and in costume, not given to strife, nor evil speaking, maintaining proper dignity and self-respect, yet mindful of the rights of others; truthful, honest, patient, charitable, benevolent and humane.

SECOND PRIZE.

First of all, a manly man, who holds honor so dear that all his actions are subservient to it. His conscience his guide, he needs no other. He is not a hypocrite, but not patronizing; clean in mind, because a clean conscience makes a clean body. He walks a king among men. Loving nature and being close to her, he finds no room for the littleness and bickering of the fellow men; no taint of selfishness or avarice or sensuality stains his noble life, and therefore he is in the highest sense of the word a gentleman.

THIRD PRIZE.

A gentleman is a man whose nature is patterned or molded, four-square, "and the length and depth and height and breadth are equal." Brave, kind, courteous, quick to see the right and condemn the wrong, but never condemn. He acknowledges all men as brothers, of a common Father, he strives to leave the world better off than he found it. He is gentle towards women and children, and always considerate.

FOURTH PRIZE.

Nature has furnished the diamond in the rough with qualities that command admiration in the polished gem. The qualities of heart and mind that characterize the true gentleman are inherent. One so endowed may be "born to the purple" or merely the offspring of the peacock. Nature is impartial. He who possesses a high sense of who instinctively and willingly sacrifices his own convenience and comfort to promote the pleasure of others is a gentleman. This is the gem in the rough. The cautious of good society provide the polish.

OUR DAYLIGHT DOMAIN.

We are not quite equal with Great Britain in the expansion of our domain, but we are getting there. The claim that with the occupancy of the Philippine islands the sun never sets on American soil is not quite true. It holds during the long days of the year, but when the shadows lengthen and daylight shrinks, eastern Maine is still dark of the sun has ceased to shine on the Philippines. To meet this distinction of England it was once contended that the sun rose on the eastern limits of Maine before it set on the farthest of the Aleutian islands. This claim, however, is true only for a few weeks in the summer. To construct a country never set, the United States would have to take possession of the Canary islands. These islands are about 135 degrees west of the Philippines, or nine hours' difference in time, which would insure sunlight somewhere on the soil of the United States at all times.

But then we have only started. Give Greater America a little time and it will always be in daylight.—Louisville Commercial.

Go 'Way, Nigger!

The Paduch Visitor says that one of the funny incidents, mingled with the sad, at the depot the other day, on the departure of the Paduch volunteers, was occasioned by an old colored woman, who remarked when surrounded by a number of colored men: "Go way from me you niggers; dare do white boys give you to do do fightin', and youse layin' round here lookin' at 'em; go way from me; go way, I'se ashamed of you!"

WAR'S COST AND PROGRESS.

War has cost the United States from the time of the declaration of hostilities to the present time \$2,800,000 a day, and there have been not more than three really active engagements. But preparation expenses are equal to, if they do not exceed, the outlay required during heavy battles. Most of the purchasing for the government has been done in the open market and at prices fixed by the sellers. There has not been time to advertise for proposals to furnish the goods, and consequently there has not been much competition. An enormous expenditure is compelled by the handling of about 100,000 men, who, according to the present plans of the government, will soon be actively engaged in the war against Spain. Then the cost of ammunition, coal and supplies for the navy, to say nothing of the purchase of auxiliary cruisers, has made heavy demands on the government.

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